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His previous positions include Vice President for Conservation with the National Wildlife Federation in Washington, DC; Regional Counsel to the New England Regional Office of the EPA; Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation; and Of Counsel with the Perkins Coie law firm in Portland, Oregon. Much of his work has been in drafting, litigating, administering, teaching, and writing about environmental law and policy for over four decades. I addition, his current focus is on confronting the twin challenges of climate disruption and biodiversity conservation through his teaching, writing, public speaking and advocacy.

Professor Parenteau is a Fulbright US Scholar and a Fellow in the American College of Environmental Lawyers. He is the recipient of the Kerry Rydberg Award for excellence in public interest environmental law and the National Wildlife Federation's Conservation Achievement Award. He holds a B.S. from Regis University, a J.D. from Creighton University, and an LLM in Environmental Law from the George Washington U.